

Chairman Heise,

Good morning, I would like to take a moment of your time to express my appreciation of your, and the Criminal Justice Committee's, time this morning for considering SB 427. Unfortunately I am not able to attend the hearing this morning due to contract negotiations with of field staff's union, but I wanted to at least send this note and endorsement of Senate Bill 427.

I am a licensed Paramedic and the Director of a County owned and operated ambulance agency in Senator Geoff Hansen's district. In my personal experience and also in my position as Director have witnessed many situations where off duty EMS providers had to choose between not assisting in an emergency that they have witnessed while off-duty or to place themselves in an legally exposed situation due to an long standing legislative oversight.

As a specific example of this situation, one location in our service area is the Silver Lake Sand Dunes Off Road Vehicle Area. This area hosts several hundred thousand visitors each year in which many of those are off duty Prehospital Providers. Unfortunately while those visitors are enjoying the natural resources in their off road vehicles high speed accidents occur. With many of these visitors being off duty personnel. Many times these trained providers are already in the area of the accident & they try to assist to see if there is anything that they can do to assist while waiting for our units to arrive. There has been many situations in which by doing so they have provided life saving interventions through simple first aid treatment without any specialized equipment. In those situations there is not a thought on their part about the possible legal implications of their actions, they are simply concerned about the welfare and well-being of another individual. In this example, these providers are using their skills that they have been trained for and are able to make a significant impact on the injured individual. However, by doing so they are not provided the same legal protection as other healthcare providers who do not have the same expertise or abilities, yet they choose to without regard. It is time that we make this change to the "Good Samaritan Law" and acknowledge their dedication to the health and welfare of our residents and visitors along with protecting them from unnecessary and many times frivolous litigation.

By revising this legislation, and passing this forward to the full House for approval, there will be an immediate improvement to the health and safety of our great State.

Thank you again for your, and your Committee's, attention to this matter this morning. If you have any questions or need anything of me please do not hesitate to call upon me - now or in the future.

Respectfully & God bless,

Lance Corey  
Oceana County EMS  
3966 N. Oceana Drive  
Hart, MI 49420

Mobile: (231) 742-1131  
Office: (231) 873-8241  
Fax: (231) 873-8263

*"Do not wait for leaders; do it alone, person to person." - Mother Teresa*